

### Op-Eds

#### [Gutierrez: Why Is Senate Protecting Wall Street?](#)

By Rep. Luis Gutierrez

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The old joke that circulates around Capitol Hill (at least on the House side) is that the Senate is Washington's legislative hospice: a place where good bills and ideas go to die a slow and quiet death.

Many people in Washington, including myself, hoped that given the momentum and the necessity behind the financial reform debate that Congress has been engaged in since the worst of the crisis in the fall of 2008, this joke would be proved wrong. Unfortunately, as the reform package moves through the Senate, many of the reforms passed in the House legislation (H.R. 4173, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2009) — including strong consumer protections and much-needed reforms to the structure of the financial services industry — are being watered down. Those who have the best long-term interests of our consumers and our economy in mind need to speak out to oppose the Senate's appeasement of the financial services lobby. [Read more](#)